



### Welcome to Malaysia.

In Malaysian dance, every gesture conveys a special meaning. Here, a beautiful dancer wishes you a warm welcome to our country.

**TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS  
CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY**

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# NATIONAL PARKS



## MALAYSIA





## TAMAN NEGARA

Taman Negara comprises 4,343 square kilometres and is situated partly in Pahang State, partly in Kelantan State and partly in Trengganu State in Peninsular Malaysia. The National Park accessible to visitors is contained in the State of Pahang, bounded on the south-east by the Tembeling River. The Headquarters of the Park is at Kuala Tahan and it is invariably the first point of call for all visitors to the Park.

### salt licks

There are seven salt-licks within easy reach of Kuala Tahan and Kuala Terenggan. A large variety of wild life come to these salt licks to drink the water and eat the chemically impregnated soil. At Jenut Belau, sambar, barking deer, wild pigs, and tapir are visitors and the same variety may be seen also at Jenut Tabing salt lick. These two licks are within easy reach of the Park Headquarters at Kuala Tahan. Observation hides have been built at 4 of these licks so that the visitor may watch unseen. At Jenut Kumbang and Jenut Belau there are high hides in which visitors may stay overnight. From the observation posts, tapir, deer and pigs can be seen and photographed.

### angling

Malaysia is a land of rivers, some wide and shallow, others clear and swift, boiling downward from rapid to rapid in a thunder of water and spray. The fishing is almost as varied as the rivers themselves. It is estimated that there are as many as 300 species of fresh water fish in the rivers.

The rivers in Taman Negara are well-stocked with fish, those most frequently encountered being members of the Carp family, which includes the well-known Mahseer of India, known locally as Kelah.

The Kelah can be found in the swifter reaches and a line of about 12 lb breaking strain will give the best results since they run up to 20 lbs.

The Kelasa (*Sceleropages Formosus*) will put on a wonderful fighting display leaping high out of the water and running at amazing speed. They are to be found in the fast moving rivers at points where the water is deep and relatively quiet. To add to the angler's difficulties, they particularly enjoy those small dents along river banks where old driftwood collects.

All these fish can be taken on artificial bait, the most successful being 1" to 1½" silver and silver/copper spoons. The ordinary treble hooks, however, should be changed for special mahseer hooks as the crushing power of the jaws of these fish is enormous.

The line should be at least 91 metres in length



▼ Visitors' Chalets



▼ A mousedeer



◀ Observation hide

▼ Buffaloes at Tembeling River





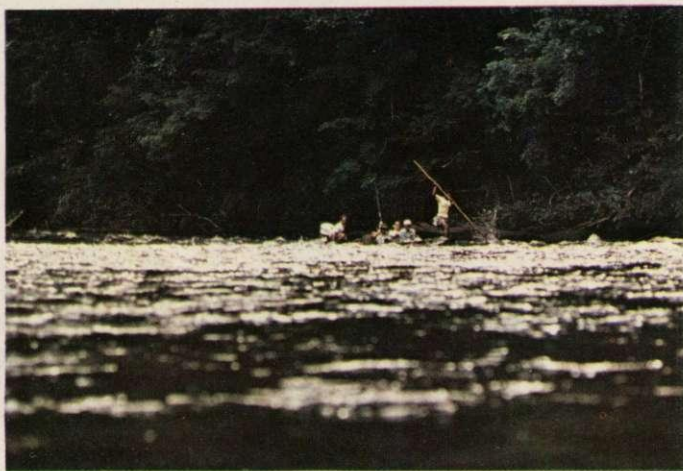
although 137 metres is a safer length particularly when progress along the river bank is impossible due to boulders and high steep shores.

Fishing can be undertaken from a slowly paddled boat or from the bank, which also includes wading as long stretches of boulders do not permit progress along the water's edge.

### **fishing areas**

Probably the most spectacular river in the Park is the Sungei Tahan, which falls some 152 metres from Kuala Teku at the foot of the Gunung Tahan massif, to its mouth at Kuala Tahan. The lower reaches up to the barrier of Lata Berkoh are reasonably placid and there are many large pools containing plenty of fish. Above Lata Berkoh cataract, there is a seemingly endless succession of pools and rapids, all excellent fishing water but seldom fished. A week's camping holiday up there at the right time should be a worthwhile experience.

Sungei Kenyam so far has been the most patronised fishing river, and some very good catches have been made. The further one goes beyond Kuala Kenyam Kechil, the better the water seems to be. To reach the best fishing water you normally need a two-day trip. Thus the visitor who wishes to avail himself of a week's good



▲ On the way to fishing grounds

◀ One of the many jungle walks

fishing in the Kenyam requires no less than a 10-day holiday.

The most suitable times of the year for fishing are the months of February and March, and July and August. During the other months, sport is liable to be spasmodic owing to local rainfall.

### **other interesting points**

Within the area of the Park there are many limestone hills and outcrops. Visitors interested in spelaeology will be well rewarded by a visit to the limestone caves that were used by aborigines and elephants; some have crude drawings on the walls, and in addition there is the challenge of rock climbing. It takes about two-and-a-half days of travel by boat and on foot.

Not so far afield is the solitary peak of Guling Gendang which gives a fine view of the Park from its summit. It is 590 metres in height, and the return trip from Kuala Tahan can be made in a full day. Camping in the vicinity can also be arranged.

### **swimming**

About 10 minutes' walk from Kuala Tahan, at Lubok Simpon, there is a fine bathing pool. The short trip may also be made by boat.

### **natural history**

The presence of wild animals, big or small, at salt licks cannot of course be guaranteed, but there is generally something to be seen. Birds are numerous and the ornithologist will find the Park a most interesting area for study. Butterflies abound and anyone interested in this particular branch of natural history will find much to occupy his attention. For the botanist there is much to discover.

### **gunung tahan**

Many people have climbed this mountain (2,187 metres), which is the highest in Peninsular Malaysia. The main obstacle is time. From Kuala Tahan to Kuala Teku (at the base of the mountain) it takes two-and-a-half days on foot. From Kuala Teku to the summit, the journey must be done in two stages owing to the scarcity of water. Thus, to reach the top, travelling time is 5 days. The return journey takes roughly one day less. Guides must be hired. The ascent of Gunung Tahan is nevertheless a memorable experience and well worthwhile to anyone who is really interested.

### **photography**

Photography of river scenery and wild life in salt licks is the most popular attraction. For still cameras two types of film should be brought — a fast panchromatic film for

use in poor light and a much slower one for out-door photography in the sun. A telephoto lens is essential if good pictures of wild life are required, as is flash equipment if night work is envisaged. Colour film may be used, but it is generally difficult to obtain enough light for animal photography at salt licks.

### **clothing**

For everyday trips in the Park, the ubiquitous jungle green or khaki drill is excellent and that together with jungle boots, or short rubber-soled boots and puttees should be sufficient. One or two changes, of course, are essential for comfort.

For normal wear around camp ordinary shirts and slacks suffice. A jacket, cardigan or pullover is handy if early morning travel by boat is envisaged, as the air at that time of the day is very cold.

Each visitor should provide himself with a good torch-light.



### **travel**

Travel within the Park is mainly by river, but there are numerous jungle paths for the more energetic to follow. Between Kuala Tahan and Kuala Terenggan there is a series of seven rapids which, if there is sufficient water, may be negotiated non-stop by outboard, but when the water is low, passengers are required to get out and walk along the river bank until the boatmen push the boat into deeper water. Visitors are requested not to attempt to assist in any way with handling of the boat, since the stones of the river bed are slippery and inexperienced help is generally more of a hindrance to men who are used to the work.

On the downward trip through the rapids, one should expect to ship a certain quantity of water, as the boat negotiates rough water at speed. It should also be remembered that early morning travel in a fast boat can be rather chilly.

For jungle travel on foot, especially in the wetter months, one should be dressed in as leech-proof a manner as possible. The most practical is the normal jungle green or khaki slacks and shirt with jungle boots closely



laced up, the socks inside and underneath the trouser leg. For the most part, however, leeches are seldom troublesome enough to give rise to concern and can be dealt with quite easily.

### stores, provisions, etc.

It is not necessary for visitors to bring their own food to Taman Negara as there are full catering facilities at the Kuala Tahan Rest House, and tinned food for journeys further afield may be purchased at the Rest House Shop. No catering facilities are provided at the outlying lodges and halting bungalows and visitors must undertake their own cooking there.

### accommodation

A modern (four-room stone-built) Rest House, 6 chalets and a hostel are at the disposal of visitors to the Park Headquarters at Kuala Tahan. Each room has a bathroom attached, modern sanitation and piped water. There is also electricity. Hostel accommodation is of the dormitory style, with bunk-style beds.

There are Visitor's Lodges at Kuala Atok, Kuala Terenggan and Kuala Kenyam and Fishing Lodges at Lata Berkoh and Kuala Permai. At Visitor's and Fishing Lodges, beds, bedding, sheets and pillow slips are provided as well as crockery, cutlery, cooking utensils, water and firewood.

Accommodation at Visitor's and Fishing Lodges consists of two rooms, each containing two single beds, and for a large party, extra persons can be accommodated in camp beds on the verandah. All beds are fitted with bedding and mosquito nets.

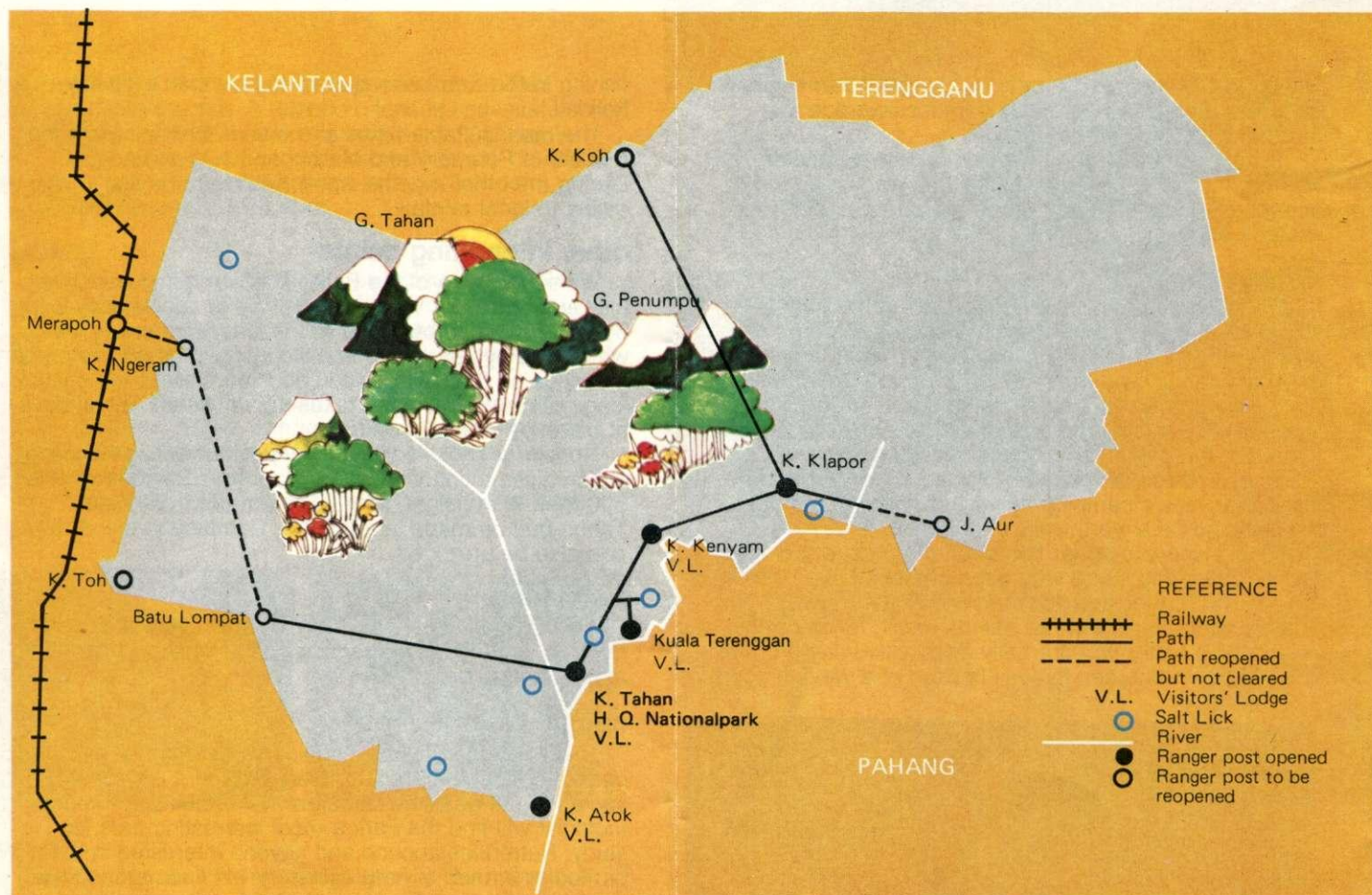
Camp equipment for visitors who wish to live under canvas includes tent, a camp bed and lamps with fuel.

### how to get there

By private transport. Travel to Jerantut by way of Mentakab or Raub (3-4 hours from Kuala Lumpur). From Jerantut, Kuala Tembeling is a further 16 km (10 miles) to the north, along a narrow, steep road. Follow the signs from Kuala Tembeling.

By public transport. Taxis from Kuala Lumpur leaves for Temerloh and Jerantut from Puduraya Bus Terminal at Jalan Pudu. There are also bus services that leaves from the bus station at Jalan Tun Razak to Temerloh. You can continue your journey to Jerantut by bus or taxi. In addition there is also a bus service that operates from Kuantan direct to Jerantut. From Jerantut you can take a taxi or bus to Kuala Tembeling.

From Singapore a night train leaves at 10.00 p.m. and arrives at Tembeling Halt at 7.57 a.m. next morning. (From Tembeling Halt it is a half-hour walk to the jetty).



From Kota Baharu, a south-bound train leaves from Tumpat at 10.00 a.m. and reaches Jerantut by 7.30 p.m.

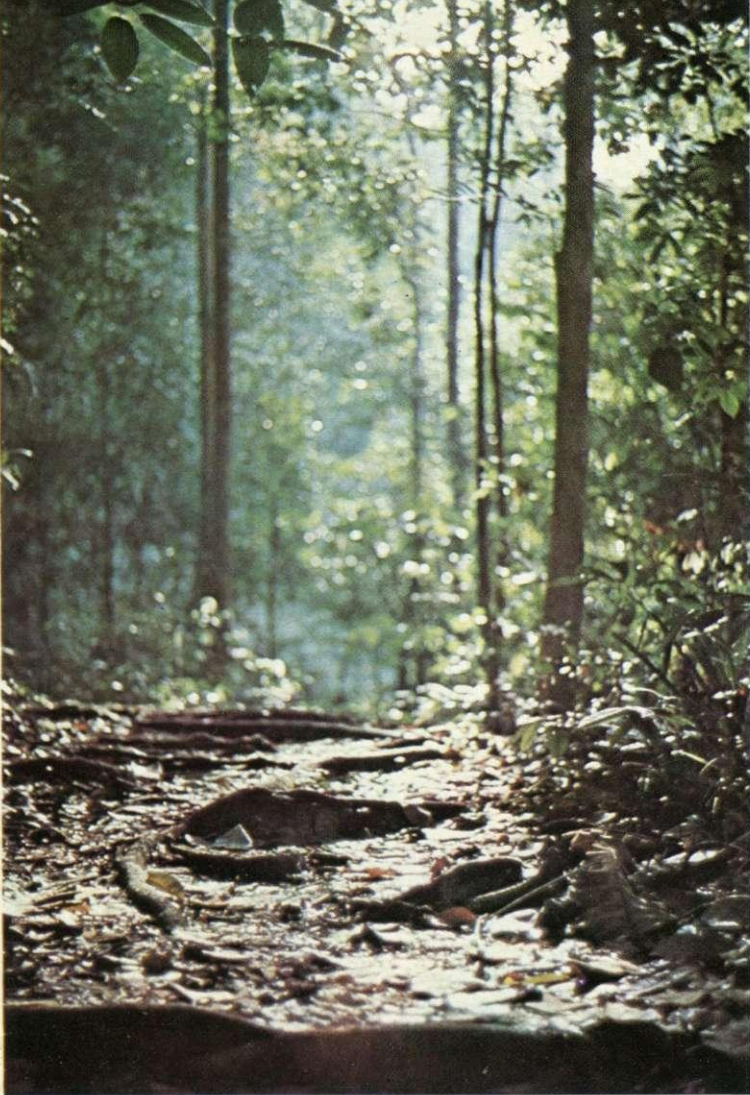
The journey by boat from Kuala Tembeling to Kuala Tahan takes from 2½ to 3½ hours, depending on the condition of the river.

For all bookings and further information, contact:

**Wildlife and National Park Department**  
**KM 10, Jalan Cheras 56100 Kuala Lumpur.**  
 Tel: 03-905 2872  
 905 2873  
 905 2875

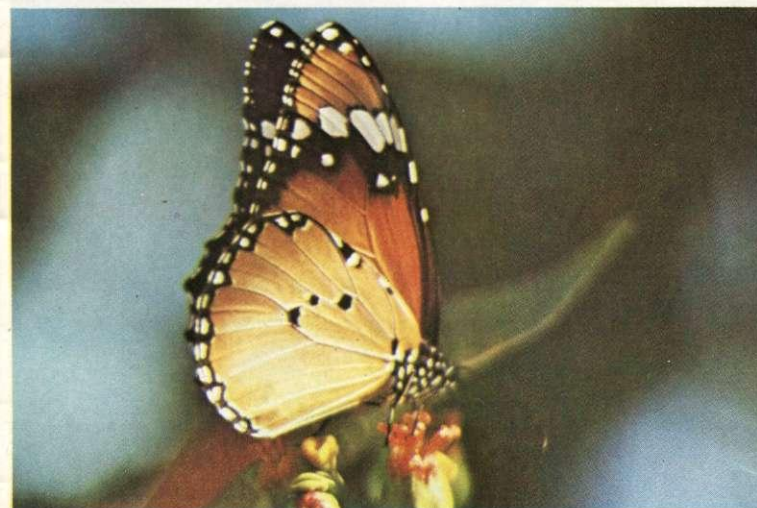
**Note:** For their added comfort visitors should bring along mosquito repellants, a light plastic raincoat and a pair of strong hiking boots or "gym" boots.





◀ A jungle walk in the early morning.

▼ Bird's eye view of part of Templer Park.



▲ One of the many varieties of butterflies that abound in this Park.



Wild flowers

(far left) The freshness and tranquility of a mountain stream



## TEMLER PARK

The visitor to Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian capital city with its many magnificent skyscrapers and fascinating oriental buildings, can enjoy the unique experience of walking through a miniature Malaysian jungle if he takes a half hour drive out of the city.

Covering an area of 1,214 hectares, Templer Park is a cool haven, profusely green, with tumbling cascades and rushing streams — Nature's own sanctuary from heat and glare. Set like a jade amidst forested hills, the Park abounds with an enormous variety of flora that fills the air with a strange mixture of fragrances. It is located about 21 kilometres from Kuala Lumpur on the North/South Highway. The Park which was named after Tan Sri Gerald Templer, the last British High Commissioner in the former Federation of Malaya, was opened in May, 1954. For the urban population, it offers the young and old a place to relax and enjoy themselves after a hard and busy week.

On arrival at the Park a canteen close to the road awaits the thirsty. But more often than not, the visitor is already quenched at first sight of the exciting freshness and tranquility that greets him and urges him not lose a moment of his precious time. Well-kept paths along the rushing streams lead to the interior where one may explore and admire Nature's beauty. Almost as soon as you step into the Park's vicinity monkeys wait to welcome you into their jungle lair. They come within easy reach and it is not uncommon for visitors to reward their friendliness with nuts or fruits.

As the visitor ascends the winding paths, higher and higher up the forested hill flanked by bamboo clumps, tree ferns and tangled flowering creepers, he is entertained by a musical chorus of the humming of birds, joyous chirping of insects and the sweet twittering of different species of birds from lofty branches. A large variety of butterflies are also found in this Park. Among these is one of the world's most attractive species, the Raja Brooke's Birdwing, which is usually found along the streams.

Flying lizards and many varieties of small harmless animals abound in the Park. Other such paths lead further into the interior until one arrives at the fascinating limestone outcrops at Bukit Takun and Anak Takun.

Rising to 305 metres, Bukit Takun and Anak Takun, are of great interest to naturalists, especially Anak Takun which contains a network of caves with geological formations and living fossils which remain largely intact. The caves and limestone escarpment also throw a challenge to the adventurous climber.

The natural charm of Templer Park has always enthralled visitors to the Park. The Hollywood film team for 'The Seventh Dawn' was on location here and William Holden, Susanna York and Capucine played their parts in some of the many jungle scenes shot here.



(right and far right)  
Varying vegetation on the slopes of Mt Kinabalu

## KINABALU NATIONAL PARK

Eighty-six kilometres from Kota Kinabalu, capital of Sabah state, rises the 4,101 metre high Mount Kinabalu, one of the highest mountains in S.E. Asia. The Park extends from an elevation of 152 metres above sea-level to the summit.

A Reserve of some 767 square kilometres encircling Mount Kinabalu, the Park represents a fascinating panorama of North Bornean flora and fauna.

As you approach upwards, the trees of the tall Dipterocarp forest of the lowlands and the Montane Oak Forest of 1,219 metres get smaller and smaller. Damp, stunted Mossy Forest then extends from 1,829 metres to 2,743 metres and within 15 metres of the Summit, dwarf sub-alpine vegetation carpets the rocks.

This 'revered place of the dead' (as believed by the Kadazan people) is not only a resting-place for spirits but also has long been a challenge to mountaineers and a favourite haunt of ardent zoologists, ornithologists and naturalists.



▲ The 'revered place of the dead'

### access and ascent

Kinabalu Park Headquarters is at Simpangan Kinabalu, 50 kilometres from Tamparuli. At 1,560 metres above sea-level it can be reached by any vehicles in about 2 hours from Kota Kinabalu or ½ hour from Ranau air-field.

From Simpangan Kinabalu, another 15 minutes drive will take you to the Power Station at 1,829 metres. From here travelling is on foot.

The ascent begins with a graded trail joining a jungle track which is followed to the first of the shelters. This stretch of 2.8 km takes about 3 hours depending upon one's climbing ability. The next stop will be at Sayat-Sayat which is another hour walk. From here, Low's Peak, the summit, can be reached in about an hour.



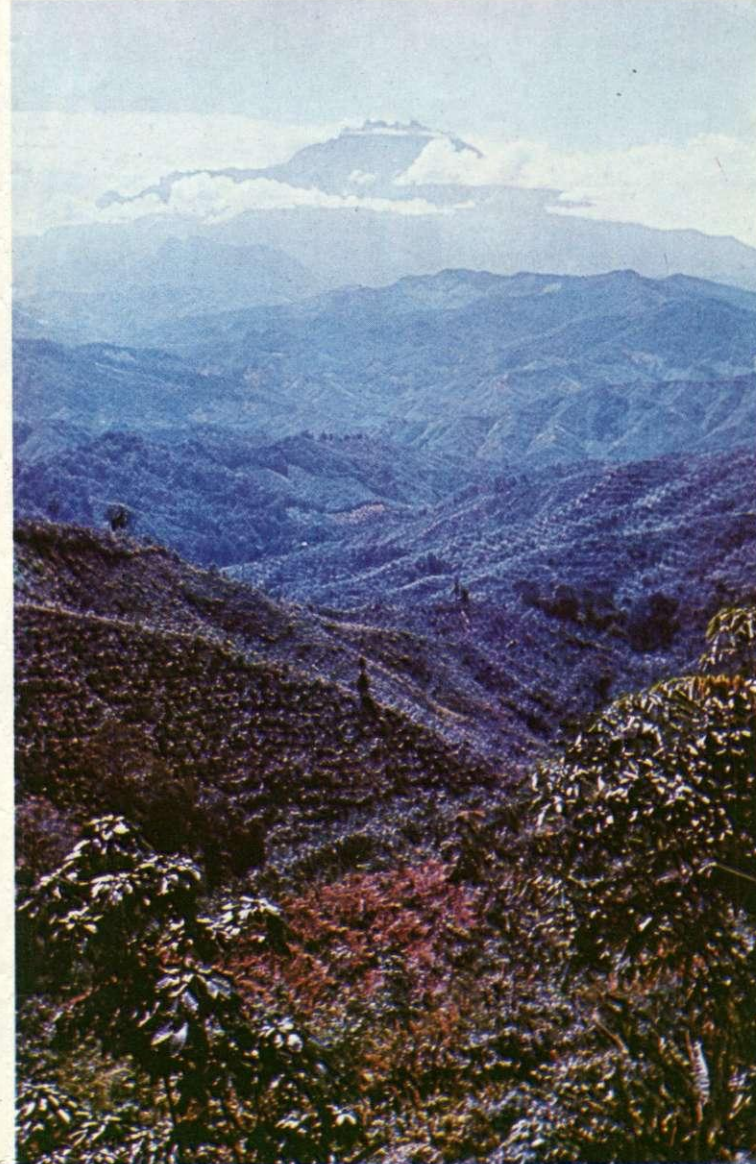
▼ A Pitcher plant (*Nepenthes rajah*)



▼ The rocky summit of Mt Kinabalu



▼ Cloud-shrouded summit of Mt Kinabalu





An early start should be made for the ascent, as soft billowing clouds often obscure the view after nine o'clock. The summit can be reached and a return made to the Park Headquarters from either Panar Laban or Sayat-sayat but the descent should commence before noon if the Power Station is to be reached before nightfall.

Visitors must utilise the services of an authorised guide for the ascent to the summit. The rates for the guide range from M\$25.00 to M\$30.00 per day for a normal 2-day trip depending upon the size of the group. All arrangements for the climb, including the booking of guides and porters should be made well in advance through the Park Warden.

### ornithological and zoological interests

The birds of Mt Kinabalu are unusually tame. Although some birds such as the Argus Pheasant are shy, the Mountain Blackeye and the Friendly Warbler Blackbird will hop around your feet.

More than 250 varieties of birds have been recorded.

Lizards, tree shrews, bats and squirrels amongst other small mammals dart around unconcerned. Fish have also been identified in picturesque little rock pools at 3,962 metres.

### flora

Kinabalu is also the hub of the oak-beech kingdom. One can discover the *Trigonobalanus* forest tree which has oak-like leaves, beech-nuts in acorn and suggests that it connects to southern beeches (*Nothofagus*) of New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and the extremity of South America with the northern hemisphere's togoceal.

Rhododendrons push out their blazing red and brilliant yellow bell-shaped flowers amidst the varying shades of greenery. Over 800 orchids add extra colour and the red-dish Rafflesia, the largest flower in the world, spreads its metre-wide bloom on the floor of the primary forest between 609 and 1,219 metres above sea level.

Very lucky visitors may come across the huge *Nepenthes rajas*, a species of the Pitcher plant, the bowl of which can hold up to four pints of water.

### how to get there

The Tuaran United Transport Co. runs a daily mini bus service between Kota Kinabalu and Ranau. It departs Kota Kinabalu bus station at 8 a.m. and the journey to the Park takes about three hours, at M\$10.50 per person. The return trip to Kota Kinabalu passes the Park Headquarters at 9 a.m.

Numerous charter mini buses are available and are

recommended for groups. Rates are approximately M\$224.00 from Kota Kinabalu to the Park. Charter information and arrangements can be obtained through the National Park Office, Kota Kinabalu.

Ranau has a 549-kilometre airstrip. A helicopter landing pad is available at the Park Headquarters.

### accommodation

The Park provides overnight facilities at Park Headquarters, at the 50th kilometre on the Ranau Road and at Poring Hot Spring, 19 kilometres north of Ranau.

At the Headquarters there are available 2 hostels, four deluxe cabins, 10 twin Bed Cabins and two luxury



A word or two to visitors.

chalets. Rate for the hostel is M\$8.00 to M\$15.00 per night per person (students at M\$2.00 to M\$4.50).

The luxury chalets have facilities of a higher standard of comfort and convenience at a daily rate of M\$80.00 for a two-bedroom cabin and M\$100.00 to M\$150.00 for a three-bedroom chalet, (plus 5% Government tax).

Accommodation at Poring include two cabins and a campground. Visitors are reminded to bring their own food. Usage of the campground which has prepared tent sites, a communal cookhouse, bathrooms and a recreation/dining room is at M\$1.00 per person (students M\$0.50) per night. Usage of the cabin is at M\$21.00 per person per night.

For reserving hostel accommodation, procuring guides and other necessary arrangement the visitor should write to the Director, Sabah Parks, P.O. Box. 10626, 88806 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Malaysia. Tel: 211588/211881/211652.

### TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN NATIONAL PARK

The Park, comprising the five islands of Pulau Gaya, Pulau Sapi, Pulau Mamutik, Pulau Manukan and Pulau Sulug and the surrounding seas, covers a total area of approximately 4,931 hectares.

Being so close to Kota Kinabalu, the Park is a great tourist attraction for visitors from overseas as well as local people who wish to relax and enjoy the sunshine, beautiful beaches and crystal clear water. It also offers snorkellers and scuba-divers a superb opportunity to view the underwater world of coral life. For non-swimmers going to the Park, the excellent nature trail system provides many happy hours of hiking and studying the flora and fauna typical of tropical islands.

### pulau gaya

Pulau, Gaya, some 1,483 hectares in size, is the biggest island in the Park and the site of its Headquarters.

An attractive island for swimming, snorkelling, picnicking and camping, it also has interesting beach flora. The forest is typical of the lowland dipterocarp rain forest. It has a good beach at Bulijong Bay — called Police Beach because the police used to have target practice there before the Park was gazetted. The water in the bay is crystal clear and calm except during the monsoon periods. Casuarina trees swaying over the white sand provide excellent shade for picnickers. Day-use facilities include a large public shelter, toilets, and changing rooms. Fresh water is available.

There are some 13 miles of graded nature trails with gentle slopes on the island for visitors who are interested in exploring.

### pulau sapi

Only about 25 minutes away by boat, this small island is the most popular and best developed island in the Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park.

It has a clean sandy beach and crystal clear waters. Day-use facilities provided on the island include a jetty with a shelter and diving board, public toilets, barbecue stands, beach shelters and picnic tables. Camping is permitted but visitors must bring their own food and camping equipment.

### pulau mamutik

This island is quite rich in corals especially on the eastern reef on the north-eastern tip of the island. Interesting sights are the delicate white colonies of *Distichopora* and clusters of red *Dendrophyllia* corals, both fairly rare elsewhere.

Work is currently underway to develop this beautiful island into a good camping ground for visitors who would like to experience a Robinson Crusoe style camping trip. Basic facilities like water, electricity and picnic tables are available. A jetty and other beach facilities will be built



soon. A rest house is available for rent (accommodation for 12 persons) for M\$60.00 per night.

### **pulau manukan**

This longish island, about 21 hectares in size, resembles a big whale basking in the sun. It has a long beach on the eastern side. Public shelters, picnic tables and barbecue stands will be provided for picnickers. A nature trail system will also be developed on the island.

### **pulau sulug**

Pulau Sulug is the furthest away from Kota Kinabalu. However, some of the best coral reefs in the park are



A glimpse of sea and heaving boatmen.

found here. There are beautiful shallow coral beds and several large coral heads along the reef rim. Fish are plentiful. The reef here is extensive, varied and densely packed with *Acropora*, *Montipora*, *Seriatopora*, *Pocillopora* and *Echinopora* corals.

Pulau Sulug, however, is still being developed and visitors who wish to go to the island are advised to bring with them all the necessary items such as food and drinks. If an overnight camping trip is intended, permission must first be obtained from the National Park Office in Kota Kinabalu beforehand.

### **the flora**

The vegetation on the islands is extremely varied. If you take a typical nature trail on Pulau Gaya, you can stroll from the beach-front across a boardwalk through a mangrove swamp and end up in a tropical rain forest.

The other islands boast of the same undisturbed vegetation.

### **the fauna**

Mammals like monkeys, squirrels, rats and pangolins (anteaters) are common along the trails. If you're lucky, you may see the Bearded Pig, which has a very long snout and a tuft of hair half way down.

A large number of birds inhabit the islands — like the sky Megopode, the white-bellied Sea Eagle, Pied Hornbill, Pink-necked Green Pigeon and many species of bulbuls, babblers, flycatchers, swiftlets and sunbirds.

Lizards and insects of fascinating varieties can also be spotted.

### **the marine life**

The Park provides excellent opportunity for exploration of an underwater coral reef wonder world. There are several coral beds close to the beaches of all islands as well as two platform reefs which be viewed from the comfort of a glass-bottomed boat.

The corals also provide a house and hiding place for myriads of colourful sea creatures.

### **how to get there**

Boat services to the islands are provided by private firms and the rates are as follows:

#### **Sunday and Public Holidays**

Return trip to Pulau Sapi

— M\$12.00 per head

Return trip to Police Beach

— M\$15.00 per head

#### **Weekdays**

Charter for one boat

— M\$185.00 per (maximum 12 persons)

*Prices quoted are subjected to revision and those interested can contact the Sabah Parks office for further information. (Tel: 211585/211881).*

### **BAKO NATIONAL PARK**

Situated on a peninsula at the mouth of the Bako River these 26 square kilometres of primary forest are accessible by boat from Kuching, by way of the Sarawak, Santubong and Bako rivers.

### **vegetation**

The land is moderately hilly, rising from sea level to about 244 metres. The coastline of the park is indented by many sandy bays often backed by steep cliffs beyond which a gentle plateau spreads into the wooded interior.

Within this relatively small area at least 7 major types of vegetation typical of Sarawak are found. They are the Mangrove forest, Sandy beach forest, Sandstone cliff vegetation, Alluvial forest, Peat swamp forest, Lowland dipterocarp forest and Kerangas (Heath) forest. The sand stone cliff vegetation and kerangas scrub on the plateau are characteristic of the Park.

Visitors will find of great interest the ant plants and carnivorous plants whose peculiar characteristics afford an insight into some fascinating aspects of nature at work. The carnivorous pitcher plant (*Nepenthes*), Sundew (*Drosera*) and Bladderwort (*Utricularia*) are abundant on the kerangas scrub. The ant plants or Myrmecophytes live in association with colonies of ants. They include Baboon's Head (*Hydnophytum formicarium*), Samboko (*Myrmecodia tuberosa*), Pitis-pitis kecil (*Dischidia*) and the fern *Phymatodes sinuosa* which frequently drape stunted bonsai-like trees on the padang vegetation.

The various vegetation types offer an excellent opportunity for scientific studies in tropical rainforest particularly on the adaptations of the many plant species under different ecological conditions.

### **fauna**

Longtailed macaques, monitor lizards, pigs and sambar deer are common. The long-nosed Monkey or Orang Blanda (*Nasalis larvatus*) can sometimes be spotted along the coast. It is endemic to Borneo and is protected in Sarawak. Reptiles and amphibians nose in and out of the water in the interior.

### **ornithological interest**

The variation in the vegetation provides a variety of habitat for many species of birds. The bays and caves of the Park are exceptionally rich in migrants and waders such as sunbirds, kingfishers and reef egrets.



## bathing beaches

Beaches at Telok Assam (hostel area), Telok Paku and Telok Pandan Kechil provide good safe bathing at mid and high tides. Telok Paku and Telok Pandan Kechil are about 45 and 90 minutes walk respectively from Telok Assam.

## jungle paths

There is a well-demarcated system of paths within the park which may be followed without difficulty or fear of getting lost. Maps in the Interpretation Centre and rest-houses show the layout of trails through various vegetation type. The main paths are Lintang path, Tanjong Sapi, Telok Paku, Telok Pandan Kechil, Telok Tajor, Bukit Kerning Gondol and Ulu Serait.

## weather

As the sea can be rough from October to March, it may not be possible to visit the park during this period.



▼ Sunset over Bako

- ◀ A giant of the jungle
- ▼ Steep cliffs by the sea



The park warden will advise whether visits during this period is possible.

## accommodation

Booking of accommodation has to be made at the National Parks and Wildlife Office Ground Floor, Jalan Gartak, Kuching, Sarawak. The Telephone number is Kuching 082-248088. All bookings must be confirmed at least 3 days before travelling to the park. Permits to stay at Bako National Park will be issued once various charges has been settled.

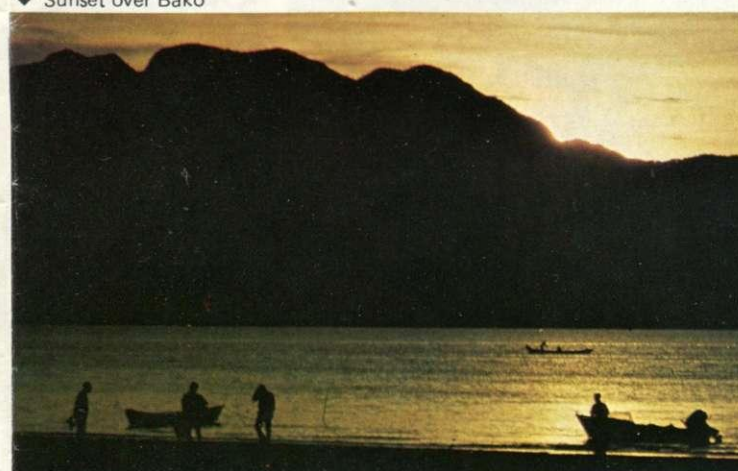
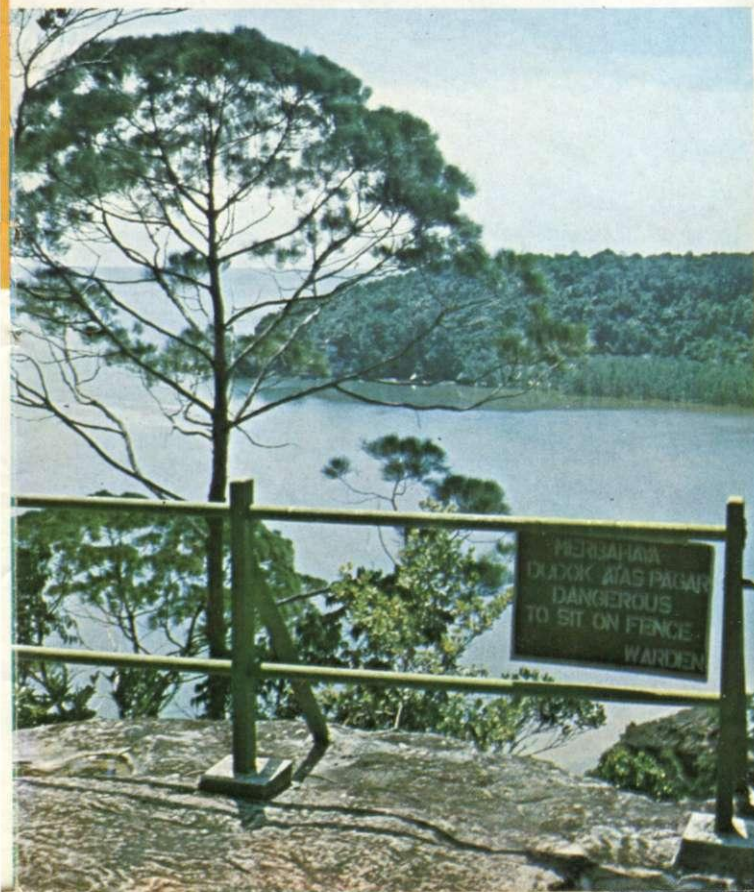
**Resthouses** — These can accommodate 13 people in 2 resthouses at M\$31.50 resthouse/night. Refrigerator, gas stove, bed linen, easy chairs, cutlery and cooking utensils are all provided. There are also 4 units of rest-houses that can accommodate 10 people in one unit at M\$42.00 per unit/night.

**Hostels** — About 30 people can be accommodated in 4 hostels at \$1.05/person/night. Facilities includes bunks with mattresses, tables, kerosene stoves and benches. Visitors are advised to bring blankets and some cooking utensils.

**Camping** — Plastic flysheets (size 4.6m x 3.6m) are available for hire at M\$1.00/tent/night. Camping is restricted to specially prepared camping areas unless prior approval from the Park Warden is obtained.

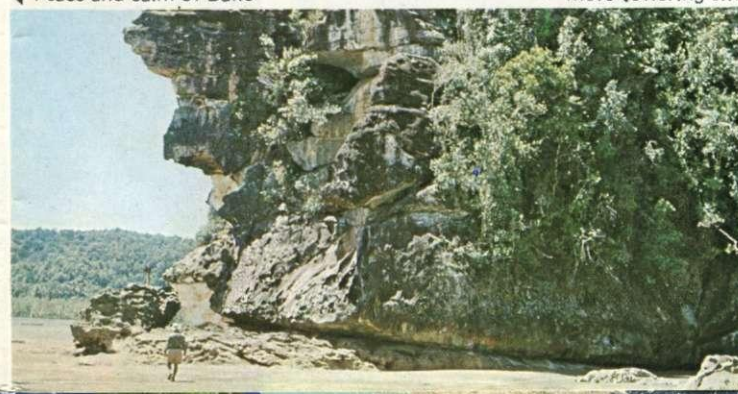
**Food** — All visitors must bring their own food and drink to the Park, although a limited supply of snacks and soft drinks are on sale at the canteen.

**Transport** — Arrangement for a trip to the Park can be made through commercial launch operators or tourist agencies. A more popular way is to catch a bus from the Kuching Bus Station to Bako Fishing Village and from there by longboat to the Park. The bus fare is M\$1.90 one way and M\$2.50 for return, while the boat fare is \$6.00 depending on the boatload.



◀ Peace and calm of Bako

▼ More towering cliffs





Boats can be hired from Kampung Bako to Telok Assam at the following rates:-

Number of passengers per boat	Charge per trip M\$
1 to 5	25.00
6 to 10	30.00
more than 10	3.00 per person

**Please Note:** All rates quoted in this publication may be subject to change from time to time.

The unique plank-walk to Niah ▶

A Naked Bat ▼



▼ The Niah Caves





## NIAH NATIONAL PARK

The Niah National Park encompasses 3102 hectares of forest and limestone, situated in the Miri District of Sarawak. Here one may explore the great number of limestone caves, observe the collection of edible birds nests, view prehistoric wall paintings as well as the preserved remains of the artists themselves. This is also the site where the Sarawak Museum carried out archeological excavations in the late fifties.

### getting there

The Niah National Park can be reached from Miri or Bintulu by first going to Batu Niah. The taxi fare from Bintulu to Batu Niah costs M\$25.00 per person while from Miri to Batu Niah it costs M\$15.00 per person.

There are also bus services that ply between Bintulu and Batu Niah. It departs Bintulu at 7.30 am and 12 noon while the return trip from Batu Niah to Bintulu departs at 7.00 am and 12.00 noon.

From Batu Niah you can use a longboat to go to the Park Hostel. The fee is negotiable. Alternatively you can follow the footpath from Batu Niah down the Niah River to the Bungalow. It takes 45 minutes. Otherwise if you have your own transport, you can drive along the Sim Kheng Hong Road right to the Park Headquarters.

### accommodation

The Park Hostel has 3 rooms and can accommodate a total of 36 people. A fee of M\$2.50 per person is charged per night. Bookings for accommodation at the Park Hostel should be made through the National Parks Office in Miri. There are also hotels available at Batu Niah.

### jungle trails

From the Park hostel you can use the plankwalk trail to reach the Great Cave. In good weather the journey takes 45 minutes. Good footwear is essential as the planks can be slippery when they are wet. Other hiking trails are also found in the Park.

### wildlife

Three species of swiftlets and 12 species of bats are found in the caves. Both animals exist in millions in the caves. The greatest spectacle to watch for, is the bats rushing out of the entrance to the Great Cave in their millions, yet never colliding with each other. Other wildlife found in the cave include ear-wigs, the naked bats, lizards, centipedes, scorpions and snakes. In the surrounding forests you can find long-tailed macaques, hornbill, squirrels, flying lizards and many species of butterflies.

### Footnote

*The Great Cave is a historical monument within the Niah National Park. As such, visitors to the caves are required to observe certain regulations prohibiting the digging, collecting, removing of any object, natural or man-made from the caves. Similar regulations are also enforced in the park.*

*Please note that it is dangerous to walk inside the caves on your own as you can easily get lost or fall into deep gullies, some measuring hundreds of metres deep. Only with an experienced local guide and a good torchlight will you be able to move about safely in the darkness.*

All information contained here in is current at the time of printing. While every care is taken in the preparation of this brochure, TDCM cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracy or omission that may occur.





# NATIONAL PARKS MALAYSIA

While the Ice Ages were effecting far-reaching climatic changes across the northern hemisphere and afflicting the flora and fauna of the rest of the world, the Malaysian jungles remained untouched by nature or man for an estimated 100 million years — older than the jungles of the Congo or the Amazon.

Amongst the many splendid gorges, magnificent rivers and towering hills, Malaysia's National Parks provide an adventure tour with a full quota of thrills — boating through swirling rapids, stalking big game with a camera, fly-fishing for giant carp, bird-watching, mountain-climbing, exploring limestone caves, swimming in placid river waters, camping amidst the majesty of giant tropical trees and to the humming of cicadas and the soothing noises of the deep jungle. There are a dozen wonderful things to do and see in these great game reserves.

